DSHS is pleased to announce the selection of Joseph W. Schmider as the State Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Director for the Department of State Health Services, effective Monday, June 10, 2013.

Joe comes from Pennsylvania where he has had extensive experience in the regulation of EMS providers and personnel, trauma system development, rule development and is experienced in collaborating with state and federal agency partners. He has been the Emergency Medical Services Director for the state of Pennsylvania since January 2005. His former positions include the Program Manager within the Pennsylvania Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and also as the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director for Bedminster Township in Pennsylvania. He has a long tenure of working in the Pennsylvania emergency medical services system spanning more than 30 years. His hands on experience since 1979 has included serving as a volunteer EMS, as a Firefighter, and a Firefighter/EMT, an EMS Squad Chief, and he is trained/certified as a Firefighter/ EMT, EMT-Instructor, as a HazMat Technician, and Rescue Technician.

Joe has been active at both the state and national levels in his efforts to advance emergency medical services. He has served as a member of the Pennsylvania Trauma System Foundation Board of Directors; is a current member of the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) and is the Chairperson for the Eastern State EMS Directors Committee and Domestic Preparedness Committee. Joe also serves on the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) Emergency Management Association (NEMA) Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the nation's state to state mutual aid system.